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PENCE URGES PRESIDENT TO PROVIDE FLOOD ASSISTANCE

Washington, Jul 8, 2003 - WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Mike Pence urged President George W. Bush today to provide federal assistance for flood victims in northeast Indiana and asked Hoosiers to pray for the victims of the flooding.

“The flooding in northeast Indiana is so severe that state and local governments need federal support to ensure the safety of Hoosiers affected by the devastation,” said Pence. “That is why I wrote President Bush today to pass on my strong support for immediate disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).”

Pence spoke by phone with the regional coordinator for FEMA this morning and met with Colonel Robert Rowlette, commander and district engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Col. Rowlette ordered an additional 50,000 sandbags to the region in an effort to hold back rising waters on the Wabash River.

In addition, Pence urged prayer for the families who are affected. “During a disaster of this magnitude, even with the best help of government resources, those citizens affected need the help of the Almighty God to get them through,” said Pence. “I urge my fellow Hoosiers to join my staff and I in praying for the safety of those affected by this tragedy.

“I want to encourage my fellow Hoosiers with the words of the Psalmist when he wrote, ‘God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling.’”

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